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Chapter 2 Configuring IP Routers and Interfaces

Specifying a Broadcast Address

Broadcasting occurs when the IP router transmits a single packet to every host on an attached network. To do so, it uses a broadcast address that refers to all hosts on the network. A broadcast address is simply an IP address that contains all 1s or all 0s in the host portion.

For example, if you have an IP network with IP address 10.3.45.12, you can configure a broadcast address for that network, as follows:

- Because the address is for a Class A network (the network portion is 1 byte), the host portion contains 3 bytes.
- Because the host portion of a broadcast address consists of all 1s or all 0s, the broadcast address for that network can be one of the following: 10.255.255.255, 10.0.0.0, 255.255.255.255, or 0.0.0.0.

Some networks do not support broadcasts; thus, configuring an IP broadcast address does not guarantee efficient broadcast delivery.

For instructions on using Site Manager to configure a broadcast address on an IP interface, see the [Broadcast Address parameter on page 2-38](#).

Subnet Broadcast Addresses

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